

# 432 MHz AND ABOVE EME NEWS

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### **CONDITIONS**

Nov was pretty much a repeat of Oct. The sked weekend (SW), one week before the ARRL EME Contest, yielded good to excellent conditions, but little activity. One exception was 23 cm on Sunday night, which produced a large turnout and several new stations. Conditions during the contest on 70 cm were mediocre to poor, but conditions on 23 cm were generally good. I found them much better than in Oct. 3 cm activity was a high of the contest. Many random contacts were made on this band. Unfortunately the 10 GHz turnout drew from the other microwave bands, even 13 cm, where activity was down from previous years. QSO counts for individual bands were lower than past years, but considering the low declination and the consequent reduction in operating time, this is not surprising. Also activity was spread over more bands. The increase in EME activity on microwave bands argues strongly for a separate microwave EME contest, or at least separate weekends for these bands.

### **HIGH SCORES**

Al though far from a complete picture exists and many of the following scores are preliminary, it appears that on 70 cm DL9KR has regained the top spot with 106x36. It should be noted that N2IQ with 110x32 actually made more QSOs, but did not have the section count. In fact Mark is only in 3rd place behind OH2PO with 104x34 because of his greater multiplier. Other notable scores are from DJ5NV 97x34, DF3RU 84x33, DL7APV 82x30 and VK3UM 70x30 from down under. On 23 cm it was a very close race between OE9XXI 80x33 and G4CCH with 77x34. Other high reported scores were from HB9Q 72x32 and HB9BBD 61x29. HB9Q who operated 3 bands will likely take the multi-band title with 271x107. On 10 GHz F6KSY scored a very impressive 17x11 and DL0EF had 9x7.

### **MARCONI DAY CELEBRATION**

12 Dec will mark the 100 year milestone of Marconi's historic bridging of the Atlantic by radio. At the time many of the experts said it was impossible. After all it was know that radio waves traveled in straight lines. To celebrate this momentous event the Marconi memorial station IY4FGM/4 will be transmitting a special announcement (a recording of Marconi's actual voice) via 23 cm EME and try to communicate with EMEers using the 32 m VLBI dish of the Bologna Radio Astronomy Observatory. This antenna has 50 dB of gain on 1296. A

transmitter power of 150 W output and a very low system noise temperature should give most callers a good chance to QSO the unique Marconi Foundation call sign. 23 cm moonbounce will be during the whole local window. Operation will be on 1296.100 using both SSB and CW. Further details can be obtain via I4BER at [tomassetti@ira.bo.cnr.it](mailto:tomassetti@ira.bo.cnr.it).

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### **OQ5OF SPECIAL CALLSIGN**

In celebration of the birth of a royal princess, Belgium is allowing the use of a special callsign. ON5FF expects to be QRV with this special call during the Dec SW on 70 cm. Dirk will be calling CQ and looking for stations to provides QSOs to with the call OQ5OF.

### **AA5C**

Greg reports on his Nov 3 cm EME Activity -- Conditions the 2nd weekend of the contest did not seem as good as they were the 1s weekend. Nonetheless it was a good operating opportunity to work new stations with quite a few stations on 3 cm EME. On 10 Nov I worked PA0EHG (O/O), G4NNS (M/M), and F2TU (M/M) for initials and then DL0EF (M/M) on 11 Nov for another initial to bring me to #30. I also worked F6KSX (M/M) on Sunday morning. Schedules with OK1CA and I4CHY did not result in complete contacts due to QRM at both ends. My schedules were on 10368.200 and it seemed like everyone was there instead of .100. QRM is an interesting problem to have on 3 cm EME, hi. It was good to hear all the activity on 10 GHz EME.

### **DF5JJ**

Peter (x-EA6ADW) has a new e-mail address:

Peter

and writes -- My EA6ADW station is completely dismantled. My new QTH is in JO43xo. I have permission for small dish. In 2002 I plan to become QRV on 3 cm with a high performance 120 cm offset dish and 32 W at the feed. On 24 GHz I am running 250 mW and 1.7 dB NF at the feed of the same dish. A servomotor can switch the feed. You can find more info at [www.df5jj.de](http://www.df5jj.de).

### **DJ5MN**

Bernhard was QRV on 23 cm in contest and concentrated on calling CQ near 1296.029. His operating time was limited due to blockage by buildings and trees. During the Nov SW he QSO'd WA6PY, DL4DTU, JA6AHB and some others. Before Nov he was up to initial #103 on 23 cm. Bernhard station consists of a 2.95 m dish, QRO power from (2x) TH327s and a 0.3 dB NF preamp.

### **DJ5NV**

Gueni (x-DL9NDD) send his contest results -- I ended the ARRL Contest with 97x34. The 1st leg of the Contest was very nice with a lot of activity in the NA

window. The 2nd part was low on activity! Heard were LU7DZ, W1IPL, RZ3BA/1, K9SLQ, F5KKD, JH0BBE, KO7N and N1BUG. I worked the following initials SP6JLW, PA0PLY, SM3BYA, OK2BDQ, OK1DFC, F6KHM, VE9DW, OK2DL, K6JEY, K4EME, DH9NFM - 2 yagis and 1.5 kW but no elevation - to bring me to initial #331. The rig is 4 x 17 WL HB BV yagis and 2.5 kW PA.

#### **DK3FB**

[Ruediger](#) sends info on his Nov contest activity on 432 – I QSO'd in the ARRL EME Contest -- DL9KR, OH2PO, K1FO, N2IQ, KU4F for an initial (#), DJ3FI, DJ5NV, OZ4MM, DF3RU, K5GW, HB9Q (#), ON5OF, DJ6MB, N9AB, K0RZ and DL1YMK (#). I had no QSOs in the 1st part due to a PA Tube disaster that occurred when I 1st called VK3UM.

#### **DK3WG**

Jurgen has a new e-mail at:

[Juergen](#)

He operated the contest on both 200 and 70 cm. In Nov he added one initial on 70 cm with K9SLQ (549/449) #385. His overall score on 432 was 45x22, slightly better than on 144.

#### **DL0EF**

[Manfred, \(PA3GLB/DL5FAB\)](#) reports that his group was QRV during the 2nd part of the contest -- The crew of DL0EF was active on 10 GHz moon bounce on the weekend of 10th and 11th of Nov from DL0EF, located at Astropeler Stockert, near Bad Muenstereifel in JO30in. We were using our 10 m dish, polar mount and a 20 W transverter system. Moon noise was around 3 dB. We installed a magnetic polarizer unit, which proved valuable when having big spatial offsets. We contacted on 10 Nov at 1205 F2TU (O/O) and 1256 F6KSX (O/O), 11 Nov at 0815 IW4BTJ (O/O) - 40 deg pol offset, 0835 OK1UWA (O/O), 0903 PA3CSG (O/O), 1021 IK2RTI (O/O), 1059 AA5C (M/O), 1138 DL2LAC (O/O) and 1332 WA7CJO (559/559). The following stations were heard during the contest, but could not be worked: W6YFK (529), K6RE (519), PA0CHG (559) and F1BLL (519). We want to thank everybody for the activity. We will be back on the air next year for various occasions. Our plans are not to increase our transmit power and to automate control of the dish.

#### **DL1YMK**

[Michael](#) gives a run down of his activity in the 2nd leg of the contest -- I missed the 1st part because of being on XF1-Magdalena Island for the IOTA-community. [There was confusion on my part as to if XF1 was an EME dxpedition – it was not.] On 10 Nov I was only on 23 cm, again with QRP. I worked 8 initials including EA3UM (O/559) for initial #30, F5PAU (O/559) #31, OE5EYM (559/559) #32, DJ5MN (O/559) #33, DF4PV (429/539) #34, K5JL

**(539/559) #35, F6CGJ (339/539) #36 and OE9ERC (449/559) #37. It's a hard job to get identified with QRP. TNX to everybody for straining their ears. (If DJ5MN is a little pistol, I'm not even a Derringer). I was on 70 cm on 11 Nov, as I finished rebuilding of the 70 cm array before leaving for Mexico. I only did a quick sun noise measurement, but did not hear my own echoes as the moon was not available at that time. So I was quite curious to see how the new array would come out. The 6 x 8.5 BV has shorter and better cables and 1.5 kW at the splitter. I was quite a surprised to hear echoes when I got on at 0400. I rarely heard the complete three dashes of an 'O' with 4 yagis. This situation continued until the moon neared the azimuth; from that time on the echoes were rather disappointing, indicating that Mr. Faraday had shown up. Unfortunately, this was the case throughout the US window. Only an hour before my moonset echoes became louder again. In total I made 21x18 with 7 initials with DJ5NX (559/559) #67, EA8FF (559/559) #68, S52CW (559/559) #69, DJ6MB (559/559) #70, PA4FP (539/559) #71, KU4F (559/449) #72 and KL6M (429/439) #73. I will be on for the Dec SW, WX permitting.**

#### **DL4DTU**

Norbert was active during the Nov SW and the contest on 23 cm. He operated from the DK0ZAB sight (JO61cu) with a 10 m dish and 100 W, where he operated last year during the ARRL EME Contest, but using his own call.

#### **DL4KG**

**Gerald had an interesting time during the last activity weekend. In Oct just before the 1st part of the contest, I found an oscillating preamp. With the help of Jan, DL9KR a bad solder joint was found and Jan replaced the MGF1302 by an ATF 36077. But the 1st part was operated with a spare preamplifier with a CF300 with an unknown NF. Preparation for the XYL's birthday party allowed only 2.5 hours of operation in the 1st part of the contest. I worked DJ5NV, DL9KR, N2IQ, KU4F for initial #66, OH2PO, K1FO, OE5EYM, N9AB and DF3RU. SK0CC asked for a sked on 3 Nov, but a few hours before he canceled it due to problems with the equipment. I decided to call CQ and UA3PTW came back and brought another initial #67. When looking around for other stations I heard VK3UM with a nice signal calling CQ. I answered, but he came back with YYYYYY. After several attempts he disappeared suddenly. He had lost the moon!! I sent him an e-mail and we arranged a sked for 5 Nov. He found me easily but this time I couldn't hear him for 4 periods. Finally I got all ok for initial #68. For the second part of the contest I wanted to add the spare preamplifier as a second stage, but the cold weather didn't permit it. Just before the contest I decided to put the 2nd stage into the shack. I think it was a good idea. I worked HB9Q, DL7APV, G3SEK, NC1I, K5GW, HA1YA, UA3PTW, S52CW, OE5JFL and EA8FF #69 for a final result of 20x15 or 30.000 points. Heard and called were also VE9DW, DJ6MB, DL1YMK, K9SLQ, K4EME and**

WD5AGO but without reply. I was not active in the JA window and I think missed some stations there. This was the 1st serious test for my TS-2000 and I am really satisfied with its performance. The DSP helped a lot. I recorded some signals and put them on my WEB page [www.qsl.net/dl4kg](http://www.qsl.net/dl4kg). The next step will be to put the 2nd stage up to the antenna. I also plan to change from the coax feeders to open wire line next spring. I have 5 continents (SA is missing) and 16 states. The equipment is a TS-2000, ATF36077 + CF300 LNA (after 25 m Aircom+), PA GS-23B (1 kW in shack and 650 W at antenna) and 4 x 8.5 WL DJ9BV yagis horizontal.

#### **DL4MEA**

[Guenther](#) explains the call (DL4MUP/DL4MEA) situation at his station during the contest -- All my 70 cm activity was done from my birthplace, my mother's home, in Langerringen (JN58jd). No one else has operated this station. The station is still there and nearly all the 70 cm equipment. It is operational, but requires more than an hour's travel for me to reach this location. I also set up a 23 cm EME station at Langerringen. I was QRV on 23 cm from there in April - for only one weekend, and worked 9 stations. In July I married my long time girlfriend and moved permanently to Vierkirchen, JN58ri. Our living situation does not allow the built up of a 70 cm array. Even my 3 m dish would take up too much space and be too much of an attraction on a permanent basis. However, because my 1296 dish was designed to be moveable, DL4MUP (Dave) and I decided to set it up temporarily for the ARRL contest in my back garden in Vierkirchen. We both shared the station and both operated it under our own callsigns. [I am afraid that under ARRL EME Contest rules one station counts as one contact not matter the number of operators or call signs, except for family members licensed to the same location. Under the rules for what counts as an initial, the situation is not quite as clear. If the equipment is primarily that of DL4MEA, I would say a contact with either call would not count as an initial for stations that worked DL4MEA on 23 cm back in April as the station location is in the same grid (Langerringen and Vierkirchen are both in JN58). If the station belonged primarily to DL4MUP, then it might be argued that DL4MUP's QSOs constituted initials for stations that had worked DL4MEA before.] Things will change again in one or two years, when I hopefully will have my own property with enough space to move also my 70 cm array.

#### **DL7APV**

Bernd ended the contest with a score of 82x30. But he is not sure about all the dups. Bernd believes SP6OPN and SP6JLW are same station and thus would count as one QSO. He asks about ON5OF's special call OQ5OF. [This definitely does not count as a separate contact.] He lost his good preamp on Saturday and operated with the backup preamp afterwards. He QSO'd JA9BOH, who used the smallest antenna he has ever worked on EME. Condx seemed normal to bad, and



activity should have been better. But his results were better then last year. Bernd asked about grid and QSL info from JA6DZI?

#### **DL9KR**

**Jan's** report for the ARRL Contest – The following calls were worked (all random). QSO'd on 13 Oct DJ5NV, UA3PTW, VK4AFL, VK3UM, DF3RU, F2TU, SM3AKW, SP6JLW, EA3DXU, JL1ZCG, S52CW, JA6AHB, UT3LL, RA3LE, SM3BYA, S51ZO, DL7APV, OH2PO, HB9Q, HA1YA, DJ3FI, JJ1NNJ, OE5EYM, PA0PLY, DK3WG, JH4JLV, G3LQR, JS3SIM, ON5OF, YO2IS, EA8FF, DK3FB, OM1TL, OZ4MM, K1FO, G4ALH, RZ3BA/1, K4EME, N9AB, N2IQ, KU4F, K2UYH, DJ7GK #762 JN68, G4ERG, W7SZ, DL5LF, DL4KG, G3HUL, DJ6MB, W4ZRZ, F5FLN, W1ZX, K0RZ, G3LTF, W7CNK, W2WD and KL6M, on 14 Oct I5CTE, SK0CC, S53J, PA3DZL, UA6LGH, SM2LKW, DB6NT, UA4NM, KA0RYT, K5WXN, KJ7F, DL8OBU, WB0GGM, OH2DG, W1IPL #763 (DN62) and W7MEM, on 10 Nov OK2BDQ for initial #764 (JN99), JR1RCH, JA2TY, JA6DZI #765, JR9NWC, OK2SBL (same as OK2BDQ but a family member), F6KHM, JH0WJF, G3SEK, VE9DW, VE6TA, NC1I, K5GW, PA4FP, OK2DL, DJ2PA (same as DK3FB but XYL), F5KKD #766 and G4RGK, and on 11 Nov 7M2PDT, JA9BOH, OK1DFC, SP6OPN (same as SP6JLW), OK1KIR, DL1YMK, JH7PAV, OE5JFL, PA0BAT #767, K9SLQ #768 (EN70), N1BUG, OE3JPC, WD5AGO, LU7DZ, K6JEY and WA9FWD for a total of 106x36 or 381,600 points. My total was about 40 point down compared with the "best" past year. The WX was calm and dry on all days. Equipment worked perfectly with the exception that the TS870 built-in keyer quit producing dots on the last morning. I had to "crocodile" my vintage hand pump (from a Super Constellation plane) to the TS870. My apologies to my QSO partners on the 11th - try sending with a straight key after decades with Vibroplex or automatic.

#### **EA8/LA8LF**

**Anders** reports that he has had to cancel his planned trip to EA8 as result of illness. He had planned to operate the contest. He is now planning for trip in Feb. When at EA8, I am presently only QRV on 23 cm EME. I plan to add 13 cm next spring with 100 W at feed, maybe in the DUBUS contest. I also have a complete 70 cm EME station there with 4 x 38M2 yagis and my old N7ART Audrey II HPA at 1500 W. However, I need to extend the fold over mast with another 6' section to be able to elevate the 4 yagis. We can have as much as 86 degs of moon elevation at EA8. Thus they are still stored fully assembled together with the H-frame inside the house.

#### **F9FT**

**Franck (F5SE)** brings us all update on old friends -- A lot has happened since my last report. I moved 8 years ago, but never managed to rebuild any antenna system. I have a 12 m high self-supporting tower, but no antennas as yet. I now

live 4 miles from my father's (Marc, F9FT) on the southwest side of Reims. Marc still lives on the northeast side. Marc is now 89. He is one of the oldest French hams alive. He worries much about the future of ham radio, although he always believes that "esoteric" activity like EME, or digital ATV on microwaves may still "kick forward" solid batches of highly dedicated enthusiasts. He lost his antennas during the famous storm of 26 Dec 1999, and never rebuilt them. It may sound funny for people professionally dealing with antennas, but it's not a question of antennas, it's a question of supporting structure... He is still very much interested in radio, more specifically in ATV, but at this moment his interests are focused on other things. Our company, TONNA ELECTRONIQUE, was sold in 1989, but we rebrought the antenna division in 1996. This new company is called AFT, acronym for Antennas Franck Tonna. Apart from TV and communication antennas, we always manufacture ham antennas. Due to health problems, I had to stop my professional activities for a while. I am presently "observing a sabbatical year", as we say in French. This gives me plenty of time to dream of my future EME antenna. A few weeks ago I had a short visit at, F2TU's QTH to have a "live look" at his really outstanding dish. I was quite amazed by Philippe's skill and craftsmanship. He strongly encouraged me to do the same. At this moment, I am still in the process of gathering information concerning heavy duty driving systems to rotate a 10 m dish. In my come back enthusiasm, I modified for ham purposes software I wrote to design 40 GHz dishes. This software computes all the parameters necessary to design an "amateur" dish, including losses due to an RF leaky mesh reflector, and also wind loading data. I will send an evaluation "alpha" version to F2TU for him to check if the results are consistent with his experimental results. I also wrote another program called "EME link budget", which summarizes all the usual EME parameters and their mutual influence on each other at a single glance. Using this software is straightforward. Maybe such software already exists, but I have no information about them. My idea is to design a new style of source antenna, in order to replace the old EIA dipoles, or the W2IMU horn, at least on the lower bands (70, 23 and 13 cm). This design would be a patch antenna fed in quadrature by a hybrid coupler, in order to obtain circular polarization. If possible, a 2- or 3-band source antenna could thus be lodged in the same housing, far smaller than the W2IMU horn. Many problems remain to be solved. Patch antennas appear simple and straightforward, but are very hard objects from a mathematical point of view, and even the most sophisticated software available do not still give satisfying results. Painful "cut and try" experiments are still necessary. I have already made many experiments on patch antennas and some designs are now available in our ham product line. But those patches operate in linear polarization. Reversible circular polarization is a challenge! Have a look at our WEB site at [www.f2tu.com](http://www.f2tu.com). My son recently updated it. Philippe told me about the next EME conference scheduled next Aug in Prague. I intend to go there together with F2TU and other EME addicts. I intend to come back on EME with my own call



sign, F5SE.

### **F2TU**

**Philippe** reports the following results in the contest: on 432 22x16, 1296 53x24, 2304 8x7, 5760 3x3 and 10 GHz 7x6 for a total of 93x56. Philippe QSO'd on 10 GHz F6KSX for initial #14, I5PPE #15, OK1UWA, PA3CSG #16, IW4BTJ #17, AA5C #18 and DL0EF #19 - copied were HB9BHU, WA7CJO, W6HD, PA0EHG and IK2RTI, and on 6 cm JA7BMB, IK2RTI for initial #13 and OK1KIR - copied were NU7Z (M) - bad window for here. On 13 cm he completed initials with IK2RTI and G3LTF. He says that it is difficult to move 5 feeds on the dish all alone. Philippe will be QRV on 1/2 Dec and is interested in skeds via e-mail.

### **F5HRY**

**Herve's** 2nd leg 23 cm results -- I ended with a score of 34x16, but had a limited time to operate in both parts. I think it should be possible for me to reach over 40 QSOs, even with my house blockage to JA. I was sick during the 2nd part and my ears seemed to refuse to listen to the weak signals! QSO'd were on 10 Nov at 0915 HB9BBD (559/549), 1026 DJ5MN (O/O), 1037 K2UYH (539/559) and 0845 IK2MMB (O/O), on 11 Nov at 0854 OE5EYM (O/O), 0913 DJ9YW (O/O), 0952 CT1DMK (O/O), 1038 HB9BHU (O/O), 1302 OE5JFL (549/559), 1320 K5GW (O/O) and 1357 W4OP (O/O). I am planning to attend the OK EME Conference with my XYL.

### **F6KSX**

**J.-Jacques (f1EHN)** sends the results of his EME group's active on 10 GHz during both legs of the contest -- Activity was good during the Eur/NA windows. All our QSOs were made on random. We worked on 13 Oct at 0950 SM4DHN (549/539), 0830 I5PPE (529/529), 0918 OK1UWA (O/559), 1049 F2TU (M/O) for initial #29, 1150 W6HD (549/539) #30, 1220 HB9BHU (O/O), 1317 W5LUA (529/529), 1325 WA7CJO (559/O) and 1435 F3VS (M/O) #31, on 14 Oct at 1423 IW4BTJ (O/M), and on 10 Nov at 0720 OK1UWA (O/O), 0731 G4NNS (M/O) #32, 0818 F2TU (O/O) dup, 0907 IW4BTJ (O/O) dup, 0955 OK1CA (M/O), 1010 F1BLL (O/O) #33, 1125 PA3CSG (O/O), 1245 W6YFK (O/O) #34, 1255 DL0EF (O/O), 1410 K6RE (O/O) #35, and on 11 Nov at 0915 IK2RTI (M/O) #36 and 1250 WA7CJO (589/579) dup. CWNRR were AA5C, DL2LAC and PA0EHG (good TX with RX problem). Overall we had 17x11 for a score of 18,700 points and 8 initials. The operators were F1EHN, F1SXC, F4UPG, F6DLA and F6ECX. The station is a 3.3 m dish with vertical polar and automatic tracking with the F1EHN System, 50 W TWTA (40 W at horn), 0.7 dB NF LNA, Transverter 10 GHz/28 MHz (with IR Mixer) and TS 440s & TS2000. We received about 16 dB of sun noise and 2 dB of moon noise. Our group feels it is time to modify the rules to reward random QSOs and separate the bands to improve the random activity. We agree with the remark of F6ETI: "It's abnormal that sked QSOs give same points that

random QSO - it's a contest!". [The subject of skeds versus random QSOs in ARRL VHF/Microwave contests is a frequent subject of discussion. The problem with such rules is their enforcement. Does agreement to look for someone at XXXX hours constitute a sked?] F6KSX will not be active during the winter period because we have not permanent electricity at our station. We have removed the RX/TX to protect, modify and improve it for the next year.

#### **F/G8MBI**

Graham's report on his 23 cm activity in Nov – I am still running QRP with only 50 W to a 4 m dish and temporary rotor - still no auto track, but I am working on it. With the exception of one sked I operated random the entire contest weekend. During the SW I worked DJ9YW for an initial (#), OZ6OL (#), HB9SV, G4CCH, GW3XYW (#), IK2MMB (#), OE9XXI and K1RQG. Heard were NY2Z [?], DL4DTU [?], JA6AHB, DL4MUP, F5PAU and DK5MV?. I was only QRV for a few hours each day. During the Nov leg of the contest I added OZ6OL, HB9BBD (#), IK2MMB, OE5EYM (#), K2UYH (#), GW3XYW, F5PAU (#), HB9BHU (#), SM3AKW (#), DJ5MN (#) and F1ANH (#) for a total of 10x8 in that leg. The heard list included HB9BCD (CWNR), OK1KIR (QRZ), JA6AHB (QRZ), DL4MUP, F6CGJ, OE9XXI, OZ4MM, JH5LUZ (QRZ), JA8IAD, OE9ERC, EA3UM (QRZ), G3LTF, CT1DMK (CWNR), G3LQR (QRZ), G4CCH, DL1YMK (CWNR), F6ETI, F5HRY, HB9Q, W4OP, DF4PV, KA0Y, W7BBM, K9BCT, WA6PY, K0YW, K5JL, DJ9YW, JA6CZD, WD5AGO (CWNR), N2IQ (QRZ), HA5SHF, VK5MV (really?), DL1YMK, GM0ISM partial copy, PA3DZL? - much QRM, ON5RR (QRZ), W4AD and OH2DG (QRZ) for a total of 49 heard and worked in the 2nd leg. With 51 heard/worked in the 1st leg, adding the two together and removing the dups, I copied 71 different stations in the 2 legs. With no reasonable ability to call CQ, I am sure I missed hearing many of the 'tune and pouncers'. My score for the contest was 27x15. [Graham prefers random operation to skeds and promises to be actively calling CQ and looking for new stations during coming SWs.]

#### **G3LTF**

Peter's Nov contest report -- On the 2nd leg things were good on 23 cm and I worked a few new ones, on 13 cm my moon noise monitor on line helped me keep the dish on the moon much better than before and I made more QSOs as a result. On 70 cm condx were not good and it was very hard work. Faraday was changing very fast at times. I know I missed a lot of stations. In fact at one point I took down the feed and checked the preamp NF and relay losses. They were FB. I guess for me the real challenge is to operate multi-band in the contest, but as a result I don't get so many initials on 23 and 70. But it was a lot of fun and spurs me on to improve all the systems. I had to rebuild the dish drive gearbox since last month and just before the contest the dec drive motor failed and it had to be rebuilt! I found the low declination a pain; I lost about 2 hrs at moonrise due to

tree blockage. On 432 on 11 Nov I worked OK1DFC, OE5JFL, UA6LGH, K2UYH, WB0GGM and DJ6MB in 3 hrs of operating! CWNr were K4EME, F6KHM and DL4KG, heard were PA4FP and RA3LE. On 1296 on 10 Nov I worked DK0ZAB, OZ6OL, JA6AHB, HB9BBD, JA7BMB, HB9Q, DF4PV, K9BCT, WA6PY, G3LQR, W7SZ, W7BBM for initial #185, F6ETI, WA4OFS, K5GW, EA3UM, DL1YMK, VE4MA, W1ZX and WA1JOF, and on 11 Nov WD5AGO, OE5JFL, KD4LT, W4AD, LU8EDR, KA0Y and NL7F. CWNr were JA8IAD (2 years running), VK5MC, right at the end of his window due to tree blockage here, KB2AH, W4OP –many times and K9ZZH, heard was PA3DZL (never heard him call CQ). I still don't know why small stations cluster around 1296.010 – Megawatt alley! On 2320 I worked (all on crossband), OK1CA for initial #19, SM3AKW, OZ4MM and F2TU #20. Where were the big OE signals? My final scores were on 432 38x25, 1296 56x28, 2320 5x5 and 144 2x2 for a score of 606,000.

### **G3SEK**

[Ian](#) sends news -- I haven't been very active, and feeling quite discouraged by the new houses being built out back, very close to the antennas. That's goodbye to my moonrise window. On 6 Oct on 70 cm I worked VK3UM in a very small window that was left before the last houses were built - my VK window is completely blocked now. When people are living in the houses there may be serious RFI on 432, because the antennas are only 30' away from the houses. My medium-term strategy is to take down the 12-yagi array for 432, and move up to 1296 with a 10' dish. The long-term strategy is to relocate. On 12 Oct I had a hip replacement operation, so there was no Oct EME contest activity for me this year! Rehab is going very well - best walking DX so far is 1 mile, and improving every day. I did get on the moon on 10 Nov and worked about 25 stations on 432, starting at 0700. Condx seemed highly unstable with big swings in Faraday. Most of the time the best polarization for Eur was dead wrong for NA and vice-versa, and always some way from horizontal. I was at a microwave meeting on 11 Nov, so not QRV then. By the Dec SW the new neighbors should be in, so we'll see how it goes! Contrary to the information in the last NL, the 2 ARRL contest weekends were chosen for lowest sky noise, because this is a priority for 144 MHz users. Sky noise doesn't matter so much on 432 and above, and our own sked weekends (one week before the contest weekends) were better in other ways. Both sets of weekends were the right choices, but for different purposes. [I don't totally agree. I think the 2 m gang would have been better off with earlier weekend too.]

### **G4CCH**

[Howard](#) was active during the SW and the contest on 1296 – I QSO'd on 3 Nov at 0400 KA0Y (589/589), 0415 OE9XXI (58/56) and was joined by K1RQG (54/57) for a 3 way SSB QSO, 0647 NL7F (O/O) - nice signal, 2158 DJ5MN (559/579), 2231 IK2MMB (569/569), 2252 JA6AHB (559/559), 2310 F/G8MBI (539/559),

2318 GW3XYW (55/55) on SSB, and 04 Nov at 0436 VE4MA (529/449), 0444 K9ZZH (O/M) for initial #162, 0506 K5JL (589/579), 0521 K1RQG (559/579), 0553 WA6PY (559/549), 0542 DL4DTU (559/559) #163 and 0636 NY2Z (559/449) #164. I also listened for GM4ISM during his sked with OZ4MM, but heard nil. During the contest activity was high, but finding those illusive last few stations became increasingly difficult as the weekend progressed. Worked on 10 Nov at 0305 JA8IAD (dup), DL4MUP (dup), PA3DZL, HB9BBD, G3LQR, DL1YMK, GM4ISM for initial #163, W4OP #164 - in EM85, OK1KIR, DF4PV, WA6PY, W7BBM, VE4MA, W1ZX, DK0ZAB and K5GW, and on 11 Nov at 0325 VK5MC, JA8ERE, ON5RR, F5AQC, DJ9YW, W4AD, K9BCT, N2IQ, VE6NA (dup) and KD4LT. Gotaways were F5FEN, DJ3MY and W1QC. My score was 77x34. The station is 5.4 m dish, 650 W from 6 x 2C39ba water-cooled and 0.31 dB NF LNA.

#### **G4RGK**

Dave reports-A storm blew through here during the week prior to the contest. It damaged my azimuth gearbox. The output shaft is bent and the bearing housing is cracked, so its history. I operated for a couple of hours while I could see the moon, and rotate the array by hand. I ended up with about 6 stations in the log. KU4F was CWNRR. I have located a new worm drive gearbox and motor, just need the time to fabricate the brackets.

#### **GM4ISM**

Mark is now QRV on 23 cm from IO85ar -- I'm running 125 W to a 2.4 m dish with 0.75 dB NF LNA. I worked the following G4CCH, HB9BBD, OZ4MM and K5JL to bring me to initial #6. I think these are all 1sts on 23 cm EME from GM. Also copied OE9XXI and several others.

#### **GW3XYW**

Stu report of recent EME activity on 23 cm – I worked on 13 Oct (ARRL Contest) G4CCH, VE9DW, ZS6AXT, IK2MMB, F5PAU, F1ANH, DJ5MN, SM3AKW, HB9Q, G3LTF, W2DRZ, K0YW, OK1CA, K5JL, WA1JOF, K1RQG, OZ4MM, F6CGJ and F5HRY, on 14 Oct (ARRL Contest) HB9BHU, OZ6OL, DL4MUP, F6ETI, OE5JFL, OH2DG, CT1DMK, K4QI, WD5AGO, W2UHI and OE9ERC, on 3 Nov (SW) JA6AHB, IK2MMB, HB9SV, G4CCH and F/G8MBI (M/O), on 10 Nov (ARRL Contest) K5JL (dup), HB9BBD, EA3UM, K2UYH, OE9XXI, W4OP, DF4PV, KA0Y, K9BCT, F/G8MBI, F6CGJ (dup), WA6PY and WA4OFS for a contest score of 41x20 or 82,000 points. All contacts were on 23 cm.

#### **HB9BBD**

Dominique writes The 2nd EME contest weekend was operated full time. I ended the weekend with 61x29 on 23 cm, which was about what I guessed to finish with. I fortunately acquired 3 initials, which brings me to #173. I had one getaway; I

think it was DL1MYK. Stations worked were JA7BMB, JA8IAD, JH3EAO, DJ5MN, JH5LUZ, DL4MUP, OZ6OL, JH6AHB, PA3DZL, F/G8MBI for initial #171, G3LTF, DK0ZAB, OE9XXI, OE9ERC, HB9Q, F6CGJ, F5PAU, CT1DMK, EA3UM, OE5EYM, OK1KIR, OZ4MM, F6ETI, G4CCH, DL1YMK, IK2MMB, G3LQR, HB9BCD, GM4ISM #172, W4OP, DF4PV, GW3XYW, KA0Y, K9BCT, F5HRY, K5JL, K0YW, W4RDI, WA6PY, K2UYH, JA8ERE, VK5MC, F5FEN #173, OH2DG, SM3AKW, HA5SHF, HB9BHU, F1ANH, OE5JFL, F2TU, ON5RR, IK3COJ, DJ9YW, K5GW, WA4OFS, W4AD, VE4MA, VE6NA, LU8EDR, W7BBM and WD5AGO. My WEB page is now in its new format and content. The sound files from the contest should be up soon. My systems worked fine. I really enjoyed my somewhat compressed contest in one weekend, but I regret not being able to collect a few more points in the Nov weekend. I would like to discourage changing callsigns for the contest and EME. I remember even K5JL one day showing up with a "fossil" new call, hi. These switches seem to be good for one thing only: confusion!

#### **HB9BHU**

Fred can now rapidly flip between 23 and 3 cm -- I took down my 23 cm rig last year after the contest and I finished the 3 cm set up. I put it up on the dish with very good results. This summer I implemented what I call the "Flip-Feed," which allows me operation on 2 bands with a QSY time of less than 40 seconds! I put an old satellite rotor into the focus of the dish, which flips the two feedhorns mounted back to back. In the contest I did 41 QSOs on 23 cm and 4 on 3 cm. On 3cm I must admit that there is still something wrong - my echoes are too weak. This is why I spent more time on 23 cm where I had fun working a lot of new stations.

#### **HB9Q**

Dan's groups contest results – On 432 70x32, 1296 72x32 and on 144 130x43 for an overall score of 271x107. We found conditions to be very changeable during the 2nd weekend. Our 432 the rig was not working well. We are working on it. On 1296 everything was okay but there is still room for some improvement. All stations worked are listed on our homepage [www.hb9q.ch](http://www.hb9q.ch). Our next planned activity is on 8/9 Dec. If you would like to work us please e-mail. [Dan will be taking over the maintenance of the initials list for the NL – see comments at the end of this NL.]

#### **JA6AHB**

Toshio scored 39x21 on 432 and 34x18 on 1296 in the contest. He QSO'd on 432 at 13 Oct were at 0210 DJ5NV (579/579), 0222 SM3AKW (559/549), 0233 DL9KR (589/579), 0247 VK3UM (559/559), 0259 DL7APV (559/559), 0312 HB9Q (559/539), 0326 OH2PO (569/559), 0344 UA3PTW (559/559), 1951 K1FO (569/549), 2003 W7CI (559/549), 2019 KU4F (569/569), 2034 VK4AFL (559/559),



2044 K5WXN (559/559), 2053 N9AB (559/559), 2058 KL6M (559/559), 2103 K0RZ (559/559), 2133 JL1ZCG (569/559), 2201 KJ7F (O/O) and 2222 JH4JLV (549/449), on 14 Oct at 0427 UT3LL (O/O), 0437 DF3RU (559/549), 0456 RA3LE (549/559), 0519 OE5EYM (559/559), 0539 HA1YA (559/569), 0609 S52CW (559/559), 0618 DJ3FI (559/439), 0646 OZ4MM (549/559), 0651 DJ6MB (559/559), 1938 N2IQ (559/549), 1949 KA0RYT (559/559), 2002 WB0GGM (439/449) and 2049 K5GW (569/569), on 10 Nov at 0350 EA8FF (549/569), 0405 OH2DG (569/559), 1849 K4EME (559/449), 1906 K2UYH (559/339), 1925 JJ1NNJ (M/O), 1938 JA2TY (549/449) and 2042 7M2PDT (O/O), and on 1296 on 13 Oct at 0412 OE9XXI (589/559), 0416 OZ4MM (579/549), 0437 G4CCH (559/549), 0444 SM3AKW (559/559), 0450 F6CGJ (579/449) 0500 OK1CA (549/449), 0517 ZS6AXT (559/559), 0552 OZ6OL (559/549), 1847 KA0Y (569/559), 1851 K5JL (569/559), 1853 K0YW (559/559), 1859 K1RQG (559/559), 1905 W5LUA (559/549), on 14 Oct at 0310 HB9Q (579/539), 0321 OH2DG (549/549), 0357 HB9BHU (O/O), 2120 JH5LUZ (O/M) and 2128 W6HD (559/559), on 10 Nov 0130 DJ5MN (O/O), 0141 HB9BBD (589/579), 0150 DL4MUP (O/M), 0207 G3LTF (559/559), 0217 OK1KIR (O/O), 0249 OE9ERC (569/559), 0318 OE5EYM (559/559), 1827 WA6PY (449/549) and 1849 K2UYH (O/O), and on 11 Nov at 0236 VK5MC (O/O), 0315 JA6CZD (559/559), 0330 F5FEN (549/559), 0358 F5PAU (569/559), 0405 IK2MMB (549/549), 0544 OE5JFL (569/559) and 2108 K5GW (559/559).

### **JA9BOH**

[Kimio](http://www.ja3yaq.ampr.org/~ja9boh/eme/Nagara_12el.jpg) is looking for skeds for the Dec SW on 70 cm – I am presently using 2 small 12 el Nagara (1.97 m boom) yagis and 1 kW. You can see my tiny 432 antenna at [http://www.ja3yaq.ampr.org/~ja9boh/eme/ Nagara\\_12el.jpg](http://www.ja3yaq.ampr.org/~ja9boh/eme/Nagara_12el.jpg). Its estimated gain is 15 dBd, which is similar to single K1FO 22el yagi. In the contest I QSO'd JL1ZCG, DL9KR, OH2PO, DL7APV, DJ5NV for initial #297, DF3RU, OZ4MM, N2IQ and K5GW. CWNr were K1FO and VK4AFL. I want to complete my initial #300 on 70 cm in 2001. Skeds with new and big antenna stations like KU4F, VK3UM and VK4AFL are welcome. I plan to add 3 dB and possibly 6 dB of gain in 2002.

### **JJ1NNJ**

[Kouichi's](#) Nov. 432 contest report -- I worked on 70 cm in the contest on 10 Nov OZ4MM (O/O), OH2DG (O/339), OE5EYM (O/O) and JA2TY (O/M) for initial #74, and on 11 Nov ON5OF (O/O) and JA6AHB (O/M) for a total of 29x19 = 55,100 points. This is my best result. On 10 Nov at 0225 F6KHM called me when I called OH2DG. I send an "O" report but there was no response from F6KHM. Also heard were DL1YMK, DJ3FI, EA3DXU, S52CW, SK0CC, UT3LL, UA6LGH, K4EME (many QRZs), W7CI (many QRZs), W7CNK, K9SLQ, WA9FWD, KA0RYT, WB0GGM, JA6DZI (a new station 8-yagi V), JH0WJF, JR1RCH and JA8IAD. Condx were changeable. I couldn't hear my own echoes

most of the time. The WX on Saturday was rain, but on Sunday was fine. My equipment is 16 x 13 el (2.7 wl) yagis LR with a 250 W solid state PA (3x MRF176GU) and FHX35LG LNA.

#### **K0RZ**

**Bill** reports he QSO'd on 10 Nov on 432 HB9Q, VE9DW, VE6TA, G3SEK, F6KHM, WA9FWD, KJ7F, JR9NWC, 7M2PDT and JA2TY, and on 11 Nov S52CW, DL1YMK, K2UYH, DK3FB, G4ALH, K9SLQ and S51ZO. K9SLQ was Bill's initial #302 and state 45 for Indiana. Bill found condx poorer on the 10th than the 11th, but generally not great for the entire Oct and Nov contest period. 70 cm contest activity seemed lower this year with plenty of time calling CQ. His final contest score was 61x28.

#### **K1RQG**

Joe is temporarily QTH on EME -- My dish mount broke in extremely high winds and repairs cannot be made until next summer. I was on 23 cm during the SW and worked quite a few. Activity was slow on moonrise, but picked up a bit during AM in Eur. I worked OZ6OL, W2UHI, N2IQ, WA1JOF, DJ9YW, OH2DG, DJ5MN, DL4DTU for initial #57, K5JL, VE4MA #58, OE9XXI on SSB, DL4DTU on SSB, G4CCH, NY2Z #59, F/G8MBI, NL7F #60 and JA6AHB. Heard were K9ZZH, WA6PY (559) and W2DRZ and OE9XXI on SSB in QSO (55/59).

#### **K6JEY**

**Doug** in DM03wt heard partials in his pre-contest sked with DK3WG. He was QRV in the contest with 4 x 25 el FO yagis, 1100 W PA and 0.22 dB NF LNA, but notes conditions were not as good as the previous weekend. He worked OZ4MM (539/539), HB9Q (439/539), DJ5NV (O/O), DL9KR (589/569), K2UYH (559/559) and K5GW (559/559). Also heard were K4EME, K1FO, KU4F and W7CI - all with good signals, but not as good as the previous weekend.

#### **K6RE**

Rich and W6YFK are listening on 3 cm with a 2.5 m dish and 0.5 dB NF. They are receiving about 2 dB of moon noise. They have about 0.02 degree pointing accuracy with a computer controlled SCR584 mount. Transmit will be with a 50 W TWTA when they get the time to hook it up, but based on reports they may have had some power on the moon during the contest. They also have an 800 W klystron.

#### **K9SLQ**

**Aayne** (EN7Økk) writes -- I am new at the EME business. I have an array of 8 FO-22 yagis and a 1.5 kW PA. After working hard to get up and running on 7Ø cm, the long awaited 1st segment of the recent contest ended in disaster. If it could go wrong it did. Starting with storms every hour on the hour plus direction



changing wind that peaked at 40+ mph. It was a miracle to work 1 station N2IQ. 7 days before the 2nd part during check out I toasted my transverter. Thanks to the good people at Down East Microwave who turned a repair job around in 1 day, I was able to operate. I really appreciate what they did. A \$25 repair could have kept me from enjoying the final 2 days of the contest. If anyone has any question about Down East Microwave service just contact me. Their transverter worked great. With my 736 I doubt if I would have made more than 6 contacts. The Nov segment went much better with 18 stations completed: EA8FF, HB9Q, PA4FP, OH2PO, K1FO, W4ZRZ, KU4F, JL1ZCG, DL1KR, K5GW, DK3WG, UA3PTW, DL7APV, DF3RU, N9AB, OZ4MM, KØRZ, K5WXN and KL6M.

#### **KU4F**

[Tornton](#) writes – After moving to Silver Springs, FL, I had to start over. I built another junk yard wars dish and mount. I designed the dish from what I could find in the local junkyard. It turned out to be 14.6 meters with an f/d of .43. I'm still using the VE4MA modified design of the dual dipole feed. The xmit dipoles have an edge taper 10 dB down and the receive dipoles have a taper 14 dB down. I replaced my HB 8938 amp with a Lunar LA-72, a few hundred less watts output, but the beauty's small size and quiet operation is worth it. I worked 21 stations during the Nov half of the contest for a total of 79 for the 2 parts. Station's worked on 10 Nov were RA3LE, OH2DG, G3SEK, F6KHM, NC1I, W7MEM, VE9DW, VE6TA, PA3DZL, K9SLQ, WA9FWD, 7M2PDT, JS3SIM, KO7N and JR9NWC, and on 11 Nov were OE5JFL, DL1YMK, PA0BAT, OK2BDQ, OK1DFC and K2UYH. [See a picture of Thornton's dish on page 1 of this NL.]

#### **N1BUG**

[Paul's](#) 70 cm activity -- After several months of inactivity due to health problems and equipment failures, I managed to get on for a couple of hours during the last day of the ARRL Contest and worked 5 stations on random: DL9KR, OH2PO for initial #16, K5GW #17, K1FO and N2IQ #18. Many more were heard, and it appears there is still quite a lot that can be worked with the single yagi. I am very interested in skeds but am generally not sure what my availability will be more than a few days in advance. Anyone wanting to give it a try can email me. I still haven't determined what the lower limit is, but certainly stations having 26 dBd gain are workable.

#### **LU8EDR**

[Daniel](#) was active on 1296 again in Nov, but only on Sunday. He QSO'd on 11 Nov HB9BBD, OZ4MM, OE5EYM, K5JL, HB9Q, G3LTF, OZ6OL, F2TU and K5GW. Good signal were also heard from WD5AGO, N2IQ, W1ZX, KD4LT, W4OP, F5PAN, WA6PY and F5SRY, but only QRZs were heard in reply.

#### **NU7Z**

Rick was 5760.100 during the Nov contest weekend -- I herd my echoes pretty well with 0.5 to 0.6 dB of moon noise. I called CQ without any replies. I have started work on 47 GHz.

### **N2IQ**

Mark concentrated most of his time on 70 cm, but did send a little time on 23 cm toward the end of the contest. He also lost time due to a family commitment on Saturday. Despite this he finished up on 70 cm with 110 x 32 (preliminary count). He had no major problems except late in the weekend he figured out that a window cracked open was cooling his receive converter and making it drift wildly. Mark notes that it seemed that many stations (duplicates) were calling him again in Nov. He had fewer contacts than last year, but still a lot of fun. Mark used his new 28' Kennedy dish on 23 cm, even though he does not have the readout fully functioning.

### **OE9XXI**

Peter's EME report -- On 1296 I QSO'd on 9 Sept K1RQG (559/559) for an initial and OZ6OL (559/569), on 6/7 Oct G4CCH (55/57) on SSB, JA6AHB (549/559), VE6TA (549/579), ZS6AXT (559/589), DJ5MN (559/589) and N7AM (449/559) initial, on 3/4 Nov G4CCH (56/58) on SSB, K1RQG (55/59) on SSB, DL4DTU (54/57) initial on SSB, K9ZZH (449/559), F/G8MBI (549/579), NL7F (559/579), DJ5MN (559/589), W2DRZ (54/55) on SSB and NY2Z (569/559) initial, and on Nov 6 WA6PY (559/569) initial and (54/54) on SSB. I was on 2300 on 27 Oct and S59DCD (439/559) for initial #61 and DXCC 21. During the ARRL EME Contest I concentrated on 1296. On 13/14 Oct new callsigns were F/G8MBI (449/O) initial, DJ3MY (same as DJ5MN?) on SSB (55/56), DL4MUP (549/559) (same as DL4MAE), W2DRZ (559/599) initial, F6ETI (549/589) (same as F8COZ) and DO6ME (same as DJ5MN?) on SSB (55/55), on 10/11 Nov the big surprise were random contacts with OE5VRL (439/529) and GM4ISM (439/539) to bring me to initial #276 and DXCC #46 and a final contest score of 80x33.

### **OK1CA**

Franta EME report for the 2nd part of ARRL EME Contest -- I worked on 13 cm on 10 Nov JA4BLC (449/559), OZ4MM (549/449), SM3AKW (559/0), G3LTF (339/439) and F2TU (559/549) for initial #15. I CWNR IK2RTI. The activity on 13 cm was very low. I QSY'd to 3 cm and I worked PA3CSG (O/M) for initial #5, F6KSX (O/M) #6 - very nice signal and my 1st random QSO on 3 cm. CWNR was IW4BTJ -- only replied with QRZ. Heard were DL0EF, OK1UWA and F2TU. I had a problem with copy when the moon was low. I worked on 3 cm on 11 Nov F2TU (O/O) #7 and heard very strong PA0EHG.

### **OK2BDQ**

Ivo is a new station (JN99) on 432 EME. He was active in the 2nd leg of ARRL EME Contest and worked DL9KR (559/559), OH2PO (559/559), DF3RU (559/O),

**HB9Q (559/O), OE5EYM (559/O), N2IQ (559/549), VE9DW (O/539), K5GW (O/559), KU4F (449/559), K1FO (339/559) and N9AB (M/O).** His station is 4 x 18 el yagis, GS35 PA with 800 W and 0.3 dB NF MFG1302 preamp. Ivo will be QRV on 8 and 9 Dec and is interested in skeds. He can be reached via e-mail by way of his brother, at [OK2MWR](#)

### **ON5RR**

[Marc](#) sends news on his Nov contest activity -- The WX in ON was bad most of the time, so we could not do a lot. I have been trying to get on 13 cm. In Sept we realized that our 6 m dish had wind damage and not operating as expected. We decided to put up a smaller dish. We will replace the 6 m one with a bigger next year. I took some days off and installed a 3.7 m dish for use in the ARRL contest. This dish has a f/d of 0.4 and 10x10 mm mesh. It should allow us to be more active, even during high winds. It is well suited for 23 and 13 cm operation. The feeds are new ones in 3 mm Alu. Both are VE4MA circular feeds. In the contest we were active for 4 hours and worked 15 stations on 23 cm. We were running about 250 W in the shack. CWNr were JA6CZD, F5AQC, F5HRY, W4OP, K5GW and DJ5MN. Just for fun we ran the RX line directly to our transverter. Without a preamp stations as HB9BBD and K5JL still could be copied easily! After the contest we measured the sun noise and found we had only 10 dB. Adjusting the position of the feed relative to the focus resulted in 2 dB more sun noise. This means that we were not optimal during the contest. Next time we will do better – hi, hi. By the next SW we will be setup for 13 cm and are interested in skeds. Please send e-mail for skeds as we want to catch up on what has thus far been a poor EME year.

### **OZ4MM**

[Stig's](#) Nov report -- In general I found conditions lower than normal in both parts. In addition I am now in the "club" of stations who has noise interference at 432. I still have not figured out where the noise is coming from. This year I added activity on 144 too, using the 10 m dish with a simple dipole feed. This activity gave some extra frustration as I lost several hours getting the 144 PA working proper in 1st part. In last part of the contest it was the 432 amplifier that made trouble, hi. Anyway it was keeping me awake! As 4-band operation I ended with 73x30 on 432, 68x31 on 1296, 7x7 on 2304 (no NA stations) and 27x18 on 144. The following initials were added: On 432 DJ5NV (569/569), KU4F (559/559), VK3UM (549/559) - tree blockade, K6JEY (539/449), OK1DFC (529/559), PA0BAT (539/539), DJ7GK (O/529), K9SLQ (549/O) and WA9FWD (449/549) for initial #244, and on 1296 F/G8MBI (429/559), K1RQG (569/579), KA0Y (569/569), GM4ISM (O/O) for initial #193 and DXCC 40. On 2304 there were no initials and low activity.

### **PA0PLY**

[Jan](#) need help to fix my actuator problem -- I was assembling my 3 m dish for 10 GHz - EME using a ECHOSTAR 24" actuator. This actuator is ideal for the elevation range needed here. Unfortunately its motor was damaged. After checking I found a nylon chain wheel was broken. Can anyone help me locate a replacement or suggest a fix.

#### [PA3DZL](#)

[Jac's](#) results for the 2nd part of the ARRL Contest -- I was QRV on 3 bands and made 81 QSOs overall as a single operator. In Nov I worked on 432 KU4F, HB9Q, DJ5NV and DF3RU - heard or not completed were N9AB, JL1ZCG and OE5JFL (the total score was 9x7), and on 1296 HB9BBD, OE9XXI, HB9Q, OZ4MM, F6CGJ, OE9ERC, G4CCH, DJ5MN for initial #32, K5JL, KØYW, KAØY, F5PAU #33, OE5JFL and CT1DMK #34 and new DXCC - heard or not completed were G3LTF, OZ6OL, K2UYH, OE5EYM, JH6AHB, W2UHI, GW3XYW and F2TU (the total score was 14x9). On 144 I added 13 QSOs for a total score there of 58x25.

#### [S59DCD](#)

[Rajk0\(S54X\)](#) reports the S59DCD team had some problems with R/T switching and that the PA was giving only 14 W (cca 10 at the feed), but managed to make the 1st 13 cm EME QSO from S5 with OE9XXI.

#### [W2UHI](#)

[Frank](#) is creating a antenna WEB page -- Many of you have very impressive antenna systems. I am going to create an Antenna gallery for more information. Since this will be posted on the Internet, I felt I should get your permission and a picture or pictures you would be comfortable with for this activity. I intend to include Terrestrial towers and antennas as well as EME setups. I will need technical data such as size, gain, type of feed, and LNA specifications, as well as pictures. I will start with my own data and pictures, and add yours as they come in.

#### [W7SZ](#)

[Larry](#) writes -- I completed the ARRL Contest with a score of 43x33 and 6 initials including S52CW. I was not able to operate on final day due to very high winds. Break down by band is 27x20 on 1296, 15x12 on 432 and 1x1 on 10 GHz. Activity on 432 was down from last year, but 1296 was good with excellent conditions during the Nov segment. Not sure how dates are picked, however, the low declination severely limited my Eur window. I have replaced the 70 cm array with a single 144 MHz antenna for low ERP experiments using PUA43, so I am QRT on 432 for the foreseeable future. It is fitting that my last QSO on 70 cm was with VK3UM.

#### [WA6PY](#)

Paul was active on 1296 during the Nov part of the contest and made many QSOs. He now has a Plesch TH-327 cavity and needs info on assembly/disassembly. He has to take apart the cathode section.

#### **WD5AGO**

**Tommy** sends in the following report -- Our group had a good time in the contest even though we worked only 3 days of it with a 8 hr window each time +20 E to +35 W. Not much time for Eur and JA's. Part of the problem was that my 17th wedding Anniversary coincided with the 2nd contest weekend. New ones worked on 1296 were IK3MMB, W2DRZ, K1RQG, KA0Y, HB9BHU, W7BBM, WA6PY, and K9ZZH for initial #170 and for a total of 35 QSOs and many getaways. I also worked K1RQG and K5JL on SSB last month. I plan to take the 23 cm feed out of the 4 m dish for a while, as I want to experiment with some other frequencies. I also tried operating both 220 and 432 EME. The 125 cm setup was 2 x 11 el yagis and 150 W. I only got (T's) from WA4NJP. We will try again when the 3CX800 is running. On 70 cm with 1 modified 37 el Higain yagi and 100 W, I worked OH2PO, DL9KR, and N2IQ. Heard were HB9Q, K5GW, KU4F, and DJ5NV. I always get a buzz when operating the single yagi.

#### **ZS6AXT**

**Ivo** had to go into hospital for another spine operation on 5 Nov and thus was not able to operate in Nov. Let all pray for Ivo's speedy recovery.

#### **K2UYH**

We operated 1296 the 1st day of the contest and 432 the 2nd. Conditions on 432 were not particularly good. We had noise and radar QRM – the worst I have heard in years that at times made copy impossible. The low declination made QSOs with JA and VK difficult. Most of the leaves were still present. It is amazing what can be worked through trees. Another problem was a deadline at LTIU. I did not get home until just before moonrise. Marc, N2UO was not able to operate until late Sunday morning. He took over for our limited Asian window, while I had to attend a function at the university. We worked on 10 Nov on 1296 at 0904 OK1KIR (559/-) – lost, 0911 W4OP (559/569) for initial #192, 0926 GW3XYW (559/569), 0943 F/G8MBI (449/559) #193, 0942 DF4PV (559/559), 0958 K9BCT (599/559) dup, 1006 IK4MMB (559/559), 1016 HB9Q (569/569), 1022 OK1KIR (559/559), 1038 F5HRY (559/539) #194, 1050 G3LQR (559/559), 1055 WA6PY (559/559), 1113 WA4OFS (449/549), 1118 K5GW (559/559), 1135 W7BBM (559/559), 1151 DL1YMK (449/559), 1213 OE5EYM (559/559), 1814 JA6CZD (559/O) and 1851 JA6AHB (O/O) #195, and 11 Nov on 432 at 1017 K5GW (559/559), 1024 W4ZRZ (559/559) for initial #645 [correction for DJ5NV], 1033 G3LTF (559/559), 1040 K5WXN (559/559), 1056 K0RZ (559/559) dup, 1106 F6KHM (O/O) #646, 1139 WB0GGM (O/O), 1146 KU4F (569/569), 1155 W7CNK (559/559), 1202 SM3AKW (559/559), 1212 KJ7F (O/O), 1224

OZ4MM (559/559), 1233 KA0RYT (559/569), 1240 DL1YMK (559/559), 1248 G4ALH (559/559), 1310 K4EME (559/339), 1339 KL6M (559/569), 1352 W2WD (559/559), 1400 WA9FWD (559/559), 1810 VK4AFL (559/559), 1846 7M2PDT (449/449) and 1905 JA6AHB (339/559) for a score on 432 of 37x20 and on 1296 of 50x22.

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## NETNEWS

by

[G4RGK, DAVID DIBLEY](#)

**OH2PO's** 70 cm contest score was 104x34.

**VE1ALQ** has a new e-mail address at: [VE1ALQ](#)

**VE4MA** has changed his e-mail address to [VE4MA](#)

**N2UO** has been making progress on his 23 cm dish and has start to assemble it. It will be 13' in diameter.

**W7MEM** has the array on his tower and is now QRV on 70 cm. He worked K1FO, KU4F, N9AB and HB9Q.

**KA0Y** worked on 1296 WA1JOF, K1RQG on SSB, G4CCH and NL7F during the Nov SW.

**WA4NJP** was QRV during the SW on 23 cm running 10 W and worked K1RQG and K0YW. Ray is looking for 222 EME skeds.

**NC1I** reported checking out his system in preparation for the Nov contest weekend, but no reports of activity were received.

**VE4MA** is trying to determine the availability of 24 GHz TWT's. If you have or know of some, please drop Barry a note.

**K9ZZH** has fixed his transmitter and is QRV on 23 cm with 150 W in the shack. Dick QSO'd in Nov K5JL, OE9XXI, G4CCH and others.

**W5LUA** has worked VE4MA (O/O) again on 24 GHz and is beginning testing with RW3BP on 24 GHz.

**K5JL** did will in the contest operating exclusively on 1296. He added initials with



**W4OP**, **OE5VRL** and **GM4ISM**. **K4EME** had 8 contacts, 7 of which were initials on 432 in Nov. He also heard another 5 stations including **K9SLQ** (CWNR).

**DL5LF** reports good condx in the contest on 70 cm. He heard or worked a lots of stations, but only 2 were new ones: **OE5EYM** and **VK3UM**. **KU4F** was CWNR.

**PA3CSG** was on 10 GHz and had 4 QSOs during the contest.

**W4OP** was operated by **W4SC** during the Nov contest weekend on 1296. They made 22 contacts with 400 W to a 12' dish.

**VK5MC** was active on 23 cm during Nov.

**KA0RYT** worked 6 new ones on 432 and has a preliminary score of 47x18 for the contest.

**WA9FWD** is back on 70 cm, but is QRT on 23 cm. He worked 19 initials including **K4EME**, **W7CNK**, **S52CW** and **KA0RYT** in the contest. John had problems with his rotor AZ indicator. He also reports no progress on 13 cm. He has a couple of TWTAs for 10 GHz and is considering operation on 3 and 5 GHz.

**WB4BKC** listened on the 1st contest weekend on 23 cm and heard nil. Finally he found both feed and preamp problems. They have now been fixed and listening in Nov netted about 12 stations including **HB9Q**, **KA0Y**, **K5JL**, **K0YW** and **OE9XXI**. He will hook up the transmitter and be on in Dec.

**W6WE** is making some progress on his dish and has made arrangements to remove some trees to improve his window.

**NA4N** retired in June and is now working on his dish again now that he has more time. He should be on 1296 shortly with 150 W and a 10' dish.

**N2HLT** is not QRV at this time.

**W7CNK** measured the NF of his TS-2000 on 432 and 144. On 144 (preamp on) the NF = 8.25 dB and on 432 (preamp on) NF = 8.75 dB.

**VE6TA** has completed WAC on 70 cm. Grant's contest results were 20x17 on 70 cm and 22x16 on 23 cm. He is also up to initial #83 on 70 cm and will stay on 70 cm for a few months.

**WB0GGM** had fun on 70 cm during the contest and worked 22x16. There were many gotaways including **RA3LE**, **UA9FAD**, **IN3AGI**, **JS3SIM** and **JR9NWC**.

**DF3RU** missed the 1st day of contest, but still scored 84x33 on 432.



**DJ7GK** is new station on 70 cm from JN68.

**OK2DL** and **OK2BDQ** are both in JN99 and new stations on 432. They are separate stations.

**W1ZX** will be on 23 cm for the Dec SW and welcomes skeds.

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## FOR SALE

**WD5AGO** has a 23 cm Amp consisting of 2 Hispec 2 x 7289 PAs phased together with heater, bias supply and plate metering for each amp in a rack mount enclosure about 19"x5.5"x20" deep. A set of water-cooled tubes come with it for \$US800 + shipping (S), I also have plate transformers custom made to fit in same enclosure. One will provide 1200 V at 400 ma continues 600 ma IAS (250 W) or two placed in parallel for + 1 amp out (300 to 500w based on tubes) drive for 300 W is about 20 W. \$US150 for .4 A p/s or \$250 for .8 A p/s. He will FAX a picture if wanted. Also a 23 cm solid-state amp with 10 in – 35 W out class C. A 24 Vdc p/s comes with it. This is the driver for the above PA. Price is \$US175 + S.

**UR4LL** has for sale new Russian metal/ceramic final tubes: Triodes GS35b 1500 W @1000 MHz (close to 8877) for \$US100; 1500 W on HF,VHF,SHF, >800 W on 23 cm with RW1AW design; GS9b > 100 W on 13 cm (K9EK cavity design) for \$US30; GI7b 350-300 W on HF-23 cm - \$US30; Tetrodes GU84b 2.5 kW @ 250 MHz (WA6PY designed 2 kW 2m final) for \$US130, sockets are available, OK for HF-VHF; GS15b 280 W on 23 cm in WA9OUU cavity design for \$US25; GU43b 1600 W up to 100 MHz for \$US75, ok for HF – 6 m. GS23b 1.5 kW on 70 cm in N7ART and KD5FZX finals (similar to YL1050) for \$US160; Relays: REW-15 coaxial 1500 W relay - \$US20, connectors for them \$1 each; Cheap HV (6-10-20 kV) RF disc ceramic and doorknob capacitors (500,1500,2200 pF); Zenner diodes D815A 5.6 V @1450 mA for \$US0.25 per each; D815B 6.8 V @1150 mA for \$US0.25 per each. All parts are new and never were in use. Delivery period is about 2 weeks. See:

[Lots of nice parts](#)

for more details.

**NA4N** has a 432 GL-6942 amp and one tube available for \$US350. He is looking for a GR-1236 IF meter, and also a 12 pin plug for a TS-520 for xvtr control.

**NU7Z** is looking for a 2 GHz Brick LO with a positive voltage external reference, or a 12 GHz LO with a positive voltage reference.

W7CNK is **looking for a Russian GI7B tube** [– see above].

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## FINAL

They say when it rain it pours. It seems that there is so much going on this month! Things will not slow down now that the ARRL contest is over. The Dec SW is sure to be a good one with many new stations wanting to try out there EME systems after their initial contest success. OQ5ON is also promising to be on during the SW. Then there is the 23 cm Marconi Celebration EME Tests on 12 Dec. Although this is weekday, I predict there will be a big turnout. We also have received the announcement for the 2002 DUBUS/REF Contest. The weekends will be 23/24 March for 432 MHz and 2.3 to 5.7 GHz, and 20/21 April for 144 MHz, 1.3 and 10 GHz. Full details and rules are at [www.dubus.org](http://www.dubus.org). And don't forget the NL's own EME SSB Contest. This contest will again occur in Feb on the 23/24 Feb SW. We will have the full rules in the next NL, but they will be similar to last year with operation on 23 cm for only one moon window.

This month NL also includes G3SEK's Lunar Calendar on which I have indicated the proposed SWs with an "\*". Please take a look at the calendar and let me know if you agree. I have biased the selections toward a high declination rather than minimum path loss. In most cases I think the selections are very clear. There is still time to make changes.

A listing of the initial tallies for the various EME bands has not appeared in the NL for some time. Dan, HB9CRQ has been working on a "Top List" of initials for his WEB page [www.hb9q.ch](http://www.hb9q.ch) and has agreed to take over the task of regularly submitting the list of initials for 70 cm and above for publication in the NL. Please support Dan's effort and send up dates of your standings to him at [hb9crq@hb9q.ch](mailto:hb9crq@hb9q.ch).

**We received sad news from VE4MA of the passing of Bert, VE4AP. A VHF/UHF old-timer and a close friend of Barry's. I can remember Bert from Barry's early days on 432 EME in the 70's.**

E-mail is supposed to make things easier but because of the format of the e-mail reports I receive, it seems to take longer to produce a NL in past years when I typed the whole thing. Fortunately this was a holiday weekend and I had some extra time to get the job done. I have several excellent technical pieces that I have held up because of the density of the reports this month. They should appear next time. Please keep the technical material and reports coming. I hope to CU off the moon in Dec. Very best greetings for the coming holiday season and

## 73 AI - K2UYH



### SKEDS:

#### 1 DEC

Time	432.040	432.045
0030z	UA4NM -DJ5NV	UA9FAD-DL7APV
0100z	WB0GGM-RA3LE	LU7DZ -DL7APV
0130z	WB0GGM-UA9FAD	
0200z	WB0GGM-IN3AGI	W1IPL -DL7APV
0230z	W2WD -DJ5NV	KO7N -DL7APV
0300z	W1IPL -DJ5NV	N1BUG -DL7APV
0330z	LU7DZ -DJ5NV	W7MEM -WB0GGM
0400z	W4ZRZ -VE6TA	K7XQ -DJ5NV
0430z	K6JEY -VE6TA	
0530z	KL6M -DL5LF	
1000z	JS3SIM-WB0GGM	
1030z	JR9NWC-WB0GGM	JS3ISM-KL6M
1100z	JA2TY -WB0GGM	
1330z	UA4NM -KL6M	
1600z	JA9BOH-KL6M	
1700z	KL6M -UA6LGH	

#### 2 DEC

Time	432.020	432.040
0500z		KL6M -K7XQ
0600z		DL4KG -KL6M
1300z	JA9BOH-JA6AHB	

#### 4 DEC

Time	432.040
0500z	KL6M -RW3PF

#### 8 DEC

Time	432.033	432.040	432.090
0700z			DK3WG -UA4NM
0730z	DK3WG -RW3PF		DL7APV-UA4NM
0800z		W2WD -DK3WG	PA4FP -UA4NM
0900z		K6JEY -DK3WG	

9 DEC

Time	432.033	432.040	432.090
0700z		LU7DZ -DK3WG	
0730z	PA4FP -RW3PF	LU7DZ -HB9Q	DK3WG -UA4NM
0800z	DK3WG -RW3PF		HB9Q -UA4NM
0830z		HB9Q -W1IPL	
0900z		W1IPL -DK3WG	

1 DEC

Time	1296.050
0130z	WA6PY -WA4NJP
0200z	WA6PY -CT1DMK
0230z	WA6PY -F5PAU
0300z	WA6PY -PA3DZL
0330z	WA6PY -F6ETI
0430z	WA6PY -G3LQR
0530z	WA6PY -SM3AKW
1830z	G3LTF -JA8ERE
1900z	CT1DMK-JA8ERE
1930z	CT1DMK-JA7BMB
2000z	CT1DMK-JA6AHB
2030z	CT1DMK-JA6CZD
2100z	CT1DMK-JH5LUZ

2 DEC

Time	1296.050	1296.060
0100z	PA3DZL-OH2DG	
0200z		CT1DMK-W1ZX
0230z	WA6PY -WA4NJP	
0330z	WA6PY -OH2DG	
0400z	WA6PY -W1ZX	
0430z	WA6PY -VE9DW	LU8EDR-W1ZX
0700z	WA6PY -LU8EDR	
1400z	WA6PY -VK5MC	

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Lunar Weekend Calendar for 2002 by G3SEK

At 2400 Sat/ 0000 Sun	Declination (deg)	Signals (dB)	Sun offset (deg)	Skytemp Com (K, 432MHz)
Jan 05/06	-0.6	0.9	-92	20
Jan 12/13	-24.2	-0.4	-7	41

Jan 19/20	-0.5	-0.8	+71	20
*Jan 26/27	24.3	0.4	+154	29
Feb 02/03	-5.0	0.8	-110	20
Feb 09/10	-23.6	-0.5	-26	41
Feb 16/17	3.2	-0.8	+51	20
*Feb 23/24	24.2	0.5	+133	20
Mar 02/03	-8.9	0.8	-129	23
Mar 09/10	-22.4	-0.6	-45	24
Mar 16/17	7.0	-0.7	+32	20
*Mar 23/24	23.6	0.6	+114	20
Mar 30/31	-12.3	0.7	-148	26
Apr 06/07	-20.7	-0.7	-64	18
Apr 13/14	10.7	-0.7	+14	24
*Apr 20/21	22.3	0.7	+96	14
Apr 27/28	-15.2	0.6	-168	29
May 04/05	-18.6	-0.7	-82	20
May 11/12	14.0	-0.6	-6	24
*May 18/19	20.0	0.7	+79	13
May 25/26	-18.0	0.5	+173	29
Jun 01/02	-16.1	-0.8	-101	17
Jun 08/09	16.9	-0.6	-24	24
*Jun 15/16	16.8	0.8	+63	14
Jun 22/23	-20.5	0.5	+156	66
Jun 29/30	-13.3	-0.8	-120	17
Jul 06/07	19.3	-0.5	-42	27
*Jul 13/14	13.1	0.9	+47	14
Jul 20/21	-22.7	0.4	+139	166
Jul 27/28	-10.1	-0.9	-138	20
*Aug 03/04	21.5	-0.4	-61	29
Aug 10/11	9.2	0.9	+31	15
Aug 17/18	-24.4	0.3	+122	166
Aug 24/25	-6.6	-0.9	-156	19
*Sep 00/01	23.3	-0.3	-80	35
Sep 07/08	5.5	0.9	+13	15
Sep 14/15	-25.4	0.2	+105	149
Sep 21/22	-2.9	-0.9	-173	20
*Sep 28/29	24.8	-0.2	-98	35
Oct 05/06	2.0	1.0	-8	21
Oct 12/13	-25.4	0.1	+87	41
Oct 19/20	0.8	-0.9	+165	19
*Oct 26/27	25.7	-0.1	-117	29
Nov 02/03	-1.6	1.0	-27	20
Nov 09/10	-24.8	0.0	+68	41
Nov 16/17	4.5	-0.9	+146	20
*Nov 23/24	25.7	0.0	-135	20
Dec 00/01	-5.5	1.0	-46	20
Dec 07/08	-23.6	-0.1	+48	24
Dec 14/15	8.0	-0.9	+126	20
*Dec 21/22	24.7	0.1	-153	20
Dec 28/29	-9.7	1.0	-64	23

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[Netnotes by K1RQG](#)

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**This information was obtained from:**[Scott, KD4LT](#)

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[Rein, W6/PA0ZN](#)

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